

THIRD EDITION.

# BEADLE'S HALF DIME Library

Entered at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., at Second Class Mail Rates.

Copyright, 1888 by BEADLE AND ADAMS.

May 1, 1888.

Vol. XXII.

\$2.50  
a Year.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY BEADLE AND ADAMS,  
No. 98 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK.

Price,  
5 Cents.

No. 562.

## BLUNDERING BASIL THE HERMIT BOY TRAPPER



### OR, The Bad Man from Wapsipinnicon.

BY OLL COOMES,  
AUTHOR OF "STONEWALL BOB," "OLD TOM  
BATTLER," "LITTLE BUCKSKIN," "WHIP-  
KING JOE," "VAGABOND JOE," "SIL-  
VER STAR," "SURE-SHOT SETH,"  
ETC., ETC.

#### CHAPTER I.

##### BLUNDERING BASIL.

A CANOE, in which reclined the stout, sturdy figure of a youth clad in hunter's garb, was drifting at the will of the sluggish current down the Des Moines River.

It was an October day. There was that ripe, delicious fragrance in the balmy air, found nowhere in all the land save upon the wild prairie.

FOR A MOMENT THE BOY TRAPPER WAS ALL ALERTNESS—FLASHING HIS GLANCES ALONG THE SHORE FOR A GLIMPSE OF HIS WOULD-BE ASSASSIN.





























